

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
January 25, 2021
7:00 a.m.
Zoom Meeting

PRESENT:

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Bryon Reed, Commissioner, Chairman
Bill Leake, Teton County, Trustee
Blair Dance, Commissioner
Leah Madsen, Commissioner
Shayne Young, Commissioner
Barbara Nelson, MD, Vice Chair
Greg Shenton, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Wayne Butts, Commissioner

STAFF MEMBERS

Geri Rackow
James Corbett
Angy Harwood
Cheryl O'Connell
Amy Gamett
Kellye Johnson

1. Call Board Meeting to Order

Chairman Reed called the meeting order at 7:02 a.m. This meeting is being held virtually and it is being streamed live through EIPH's YouTube channel. EIPH staff is present at the Idaho Falls office where there is also a space for the public to view in person.

2. Idaho Association of District Boards of Health – Executive Committee Report

Bill Leake provided an update on the Executive Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2021. Mike Kane, a lobbyist representing all the Health Districts, was present at the meeting to discuss legislation regarding Public Health. Mr. Kane will be presenting to the Legislature's House and Senate Health & Welfare Committees tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. and at 3:00 p.m. to give them an overview of Public Health in Idaho. Ms. Rackow, Chairman Reed and Mr. Leake will also attend the meeting.

3. COVID-19 Situational Report

a. COVID-19 Data Review

Mr. Corbett and Ms. Rackow reviewed the active cases and hospitalizations on the data dashboard. We currently have 384 active cases, 21 new yesterday, and we have 30 residents currently hospitalized. Cases and hospitalizations have been decreasing in most counties for the past month.

b. Vaccination Rollout

Ms. Gamett provided an update regarding vaccination priority groups and vaccines. Priority Groups 1 and 2.1 are currently being vaccinated. The next priority group, which is individuals aged 65 years and older, will begin in February. In Idaho, there are 290,000 people in this group and 21,000 doses of vaccine allocated to the state each week. The anticipated time to complete vaccinating this group is 10 weeks but will depend on the amount of vaccine received. As of last Friday, the state has administered 82,000 vaccines, 8,203 in our Health District. There are over 40 providers and locations where people will be able to get vaccines when it is available.

4. Discussion and Vote Regarding Idaho Rebounds Stage 2-Athletics Plan for Governor's Orders on Gatherings and Spectators

On Friday the Governor modified his Stage 2 Orders for gatherings and spectators. The new plan allows up to 40% of local school gym's capacity or up to four spectators per student participant, whichever is larger. The EIPH Public Health Order allows capacity of 28 square feet person. The more restrictive order is required to be followed and this has created some confusion for the schools.

MOTION: Mr. Leake made a motion to amend EIPH's existing Public Health Orders of Restriction, to reflect the requirements of the Governor's Order by removing the gathering limitations.

SECOND: Commissioner Young

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED. Dr. Nelson abstained from voting.

Chairman Reed adjourned the meeting at 8:38 a.m. The next meeting will be held on February 4, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman

Geri L. Rackow, Secretary